

WHAT'S *New*

in the Metropolitan Police Department



*A weekly update for residents, visitors,
and workers in the District of Columbia*

Friday, November 7, 2003

FOURTH ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY HELD AT DAR CONSTITUTION HALL

Dozens of police officers, civilian employees and residents were honored on Thursday, November 6, for their outstanding work in fighting crime, during the Metropolitan Police Department's fourth annual awards ceremony.

"Every day of the year, police officers, civilian MPD employees and our partners in the community do amazing things to help make DC's neighborhoods safer and stronger. And they do these things with little expectation of ever being recognized. For most of them, it's just part of doing their jobs," said Chief of Police Charles H. Ramsey. "Tonight is our chance to give these heroes some of the recognition and the accolades that they deserve," the Chief added.

Chief Ramsey, Mayor Anthony Williams and other dignitaries presented awards in 14 separate categories. They include the Medal of Honor, for exceptional bravery; the Medal of Valor, for heroism; the Blue Badge Medal, for officers seriously injured in the line of duty; the Lifesaving Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal, for outstanding contributions, and the Achievement Medal, for individual acts of skill or bravery. In addition, the Chief's Special Award was presented to community members who have excelled in supporting crime prevention and community policing, and the Award of Merit was given to members of other agencies that have assisted the MPD in significant operations. Featured below are just a few of the commendable acts performed by members of the MPDC and other agencies within the District of Columbia, as well as concerned citizens who gave their all.

- ① For a complete list of award recipients from the MPDC Fourth Annual Award Ceremony, download a copy of the program at:

http://mpdc.dc.gov/about/heroes/awards/awardsprog_03.pdf

SEVENTH DISTRICT OFFICERS RESCUE FELLOW OFFICER, DRIVER FROM BURNING CAR

This past May, police and fire units were on the scene of an incident at Naylor Road and Southern Avenue, SE, when a speeding vehicle came barreling toward the intersection. Just before it crashed into emergency vehicles, Seventh District Officer Daniel Traver managed to yell a warning to fellow officers, who were able to get out of the way. Officer Traver wasn't so fortunate; he sustained two broken legs following the impact. Two other officers on the scene, Robert Rodney and Marvin Tyler, immediately rushed to pull Traver away from a police car that was now completely engulfed in flames. Once Traver was secure, Rodney turned his attention to the driver of the speeding vehicle, who was trapped inside and too dazed to escape. He smashed a window and pulled her to safety as well. Assisting in the rescue were two DC Fire and Emergency Services paramedics, Kiaunda Jackson and Anita Posey. Like the police officers on the scene, they provided lifesaving assistance even though they had sustained injuries in the original crash. For disregarding their own personal safety in order to ensure the well being of others, Officer Traver was awarded the Blue Badge Medal, Officers Rodney and Tyler were both presented with the Medal of Honor and the Medal of Valor, and Paramedics Jackson and Posey received the Chief of Police Award of Merit.

OFFICER OF THE YEAR CLOSES OVER 100 CASES IN ONE YEAR

Third District Detective David Swinson has been described as the best burglary detective not just in DC, but in the entire tri-state region—a claim that seems to be backed up by the statistics. Over the past year, he has closed well over 100 cases, several involving some of the most notorious serial burglars operating not only in the Third District but in neighborhoods throughout the city. He also closed four large-scale fencing operations, resulting in the recovery of more than \$100,000 worth of stolen property – and he has already identified four more fencing operations that he is working to close down as well. In addition to investigating these crimes, he works closely with the community to help prevent burglaries and to reunite victims with their stolen property. For his exceptional skill in solving burglaries, Detective Swinson was awarded the Officer of the Year Award; he was also the recipient of three separate Achievement Medals.

Also presented was the civilian Employee of the Year, which went to Anne Grant, a policy analyst in the MPD's Office of Organizational Development. She was instrumental in the proposed reformulation of the Police Service Area (PSA) boundaries and in developing new approaches for reporting crime clearance rates.

NORTHWEST RESIDENT TAKES COMMUNITY POLICING TO NEW LEVEL

While out jogging one evening last July, Katherine Allen of Northwest DC saw two men attack another man near 28th and Q Streets, NW, and then attempt to steal his scooter. But this concerned citizen would have none of that. First, she helped the victim fight off the attackers. Then, she gave chase as the robbers fled. When they got out of her sight, she dialed 9-1-1, and then assisted responding officers in canvassing the area and identifying the suspects. For helping out a fellow citizen and assisting the MPDC in catching two thieves, the Chief of Police Special Award was presented to Ms. Katherine Allen.

FBI AGENT WORKS WITH 3D DETECTIVES TO RESCUE KIDNAPPING VICTIMS

FBI Supervisory Special Agent Calvin Shivers worked closely with Third District detectives in rescuing two kidnapping victims and apprehending their armed captors this past July. His role was to help detectives track calls from the victims' cell phones which the kidnappers had stolen and were using—a technique that helped to narrow down the search area. In recognition for his dedication to helping solve this crime, Supervisory Special Agency Shivers was awarded with the Award of Merit.

NEWS & NOTES

Citizen Summit III. Residents are reminded that the date of Citizen Summit III has been changed to Saturday, November 15, from 8 am–4 pm at the new Washington Convention Center. Join Mayor Williams and other DC leaders for this event for an opportunity to help shape the policies of the District government on health care, crime, education, housing, economic priorities and neighborhood enhancement. Details and online registration are available at <http://citizensummit.dc.gov/main.shtm>

Civilian Positions with the MPDC. The MPDC currently has four vacancies for various professional research, grants management and information technology positions. These civilian positions are open to all qualified applicants. Get more information, including salaries for these positions, qualifications requirements and details on how to apply, at <http://mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/civilian.shtm>.

DATA BOX

Homicides (as of 11/7/03)

- 2003: 209
- 2002: 214
- % Change: -2.3%

Adult Arrests (week end. 11/1/03)

- Total: 757
- Drugs: 95
- Motor Vehicle Theft: 15
- Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 29

Firearm Recoveries (as of 11/4/03)

- Total: 1,652
- October: 183

Traffic Fatalities (as of 11/7/03)

- 2003: 57
- 2002: 47
- % Change: +21.2%

Information, ideas, or comments about this service? Send an e-mail to **KEVIN MORISON**, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kevin.morison@dc.gov. Would you like to have this information e-mailed to you? Just go to our Website and register with **Crimereports.com**.

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